

connectivity through Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, etc. have contributed to increase in the land prices.

Expansion of IT and BPO Sector

***49. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry plans to expand the knowledge sector (IT) with its huge employment potential to the underdeveloped States after setting up these centres in Hyderabad and Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether expansion needs of the IT and BPO sector is to ensure that benefits of IT boom reach backward States;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry of Urban Development had called a meeting of the senior officials of the IT and State Governments and IT sector representatives;

(d) the outcome of the meeting; and

(e) the States where these IT centres would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) Software companies set up their operations in the most convenient locations and plan their investment driven by business needs. In this context, software companies are also guided by the availability of infrastructure and the availability of talent in Tier-II and Tier-III cities.

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has already established 47 centers across the country; out of which 7 centers are in Metros and balance 40 centers are in tier II and tier III cities;

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The template has been circulated to all States for their guidance.